

(e) have the Government received complaints from the public of the locality regarding the unsatisfactory condition of the canal;

(f) are the Government aware that one of the purposes of the canal, *viz.*, the draining of water from the parambas, is not served under the present condition of the canal;

(g) do the Government intend to deepen the canal according to the original plan;

(h) what is the width of the canal near the Malippuram salt depot and what is the width at other portions of the canal;

(i) why is the width of the canal near the salt depot narrowed?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—(a) Yes.

(b) The question does not arise in view of the answer to sub-division (a).

(c) The reduced level of the bed of the canal for the first 5,000 feet of its length was ranging between 23·8 and 23·4 and in the remaining portions between 22·9 and 22·00.

(d) The estimated reduced level of the canal was 22·00.

(e) A complaint about the insufficient depth in certain places was received by the end of Karkadagam 1102, soon after the work was completed. There were, however, no complaints on this point afterwards.

(f) No.

(g) Government do not intend to deepen the canal for reasons given in answers to sub-divisions (e) and (f).

(h) Bottom width near Malippuram salt depot is 20' and that in other places 30'.

(i) The width was narrowed for the following reasons:—

1. The ground being higher greater cutting depth was necessitated.

2. Sufficient land for the canal was not available at the place due to private buildings on one side and Government salt depot on the other.

Communication—Nellayi Railway Station.

566. Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(a) when was the Nellayi Railway Station opened;

(b) which are the villages adjoining to this station and which are the adjoining villages which have no direct road communication with this Railway Station;

(c) whether any action is taken to connect these villages with the Railway Station by roads;

(d) whether the Government have received any petition dated, 20th October 1931 from Rev. Fr. Jacob, Alankunnapula and others of Anandapuram and Muriyad regarding the opening of a small road about 10 furlongs in length to connect their villages with the Nellore Railway Station. If so, what action was taken regarding the same?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—(a) In 1929.

(b) The villages adjoining this station are Parappukara, Nellore, Muriyad and Anandapuram. Nellore, Anandapuram and Muriyad have no direct road communication.

(c) A road is now under construction between the station and the main Chalakkudi road. This will effect communication with Nellore village.

(d) Yes. The matter is under consideration.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Are not these villages, Anandapuram and Muriyad surrounded on all sides by water during the rainy season?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—Yes.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Are not the grievances stated in the petition legitimate and longstanding?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—Yes, the Government have appreciated the point and they have asked me to provide funds for constructing the road in 1938.

Quarters—Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer.

567. Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—Will the Government be pleased to place a statement on the table showing in respect of the quarters let out to Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer.—

(a) the area of the site and the floor area of the buildings therein;

(b) the cost of buildings and site;

(c) the cost of Government furniture, if any, in the buildings;

(d) the rent charged?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—

(a) Area of the site.

1.26 acres.

Floor area of main building and out-houses

14,198 sq. ft.

(b) Buildings cost approximately Rs. 40,000 and site Rs. 25,200.

(c) About Rs. 140.

(d) Nil.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—May I know whether there are any particular reasons for placing the buildings and site costing Rs. 65 thousand at the disposal of the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer?